Statement

District-wise list of farmers benefited in Himachal Pradesh by National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)

S.No.	District	Farmers Benefited
1.	Kangra	234
2.	Solan	262
3.	Bilaspur	157
4.	Una	106
5.	Mandi	27
6.	Hamirpur	48
7.	Sirmour	32
	TOTAL:	866

Unit for measuring crop loss under NAIS

335. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make provision to take panchayat as a unit for assessment of the crop loss, instead of block as a unit, as it is there now for the purpose of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS); and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir. As per the provision of the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), each participating State/UT Government is required to reach the level of Gram Panchayat as the unit of insurance in a maximum period of three years.

(b) Most of the States expressed their inability to reduce unit area of insurance to Gram Panchayat level, in view of increased

number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) required. An alternative method called 'Small Area Crop Estimation Method' (SACEM) for assessing the yield rates which is devised by Indian Agriculture and Statistical Research Institute (IASRI) is in the process of experimentation.

Coconut Technology Mission

336. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister, during his stay at Kumarakam in Kerala, offered to set up a Coconut Technology Mission;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far, to establish the same;

(c) the present status of the project; and

(d) by when, the project would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Prime Minister during his visit to Kerala in December, 2000 announced setting up of a Technology Mission on Coconut.

(b) In pursuance to the announcement made by the Prime Minister, Government of India sanctioned a Central Sector Scheme on Technology Mission on Coconut with an outlay of Rs.400 lakhs for 2001-02 as part of the IX Plan. The scheme address issues relating to technology development, demonstrations and adoption in the field of the insect/pest and disease management; processing and product diversification; and market research and promotion. The scheme has focus on convergence and synergy among numerous ongoing programmes in the field of coconut development in order to bring in horizontal and vertical integration of these programmes to ensure adequate, appropriate, timely and concurrent attention to all the links in the production, processing, product diversification etc. Through the programmes of the mission, market potential of coconut products have been enhanced which has helped in improving the prices of coconut.